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**THE 2011 JOHNNY UNITAS GOLDEN ARM AWARD  
NARROWED DOWN TO 10 FINALISTS**

**BALTIMORE, MD (10/19/11) ---** Narrowed from an original field of 25, there are now 10 college quarterbacks in the running for the 2011 Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award.

The 10 finalists for this year's Golden Arm Award are:

- Nick Foles, Arizona
- Robert Griffin III, Baylor
- Landry Jones, Oklahoma
- Case Keenum, Houston
- Andrew Luck, Stanford
- Kellen Moore, Boise State
- Ryan Tannehill, Texas A & M
- Brandon Weeden, Oklahoma State
- Russell Wilson, Wisconsin
- Tyler Wilson, Arkansas

Named after the man many refer to as the greatest quarterback ever to play football, the prestigious Golden Arm Award is presented annually by the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Educational Foundation, Inc. and Transamerica, a leading provider of innovative business and personal financial services ([www.transamerica.com](http://www.transamerica.com)).

Candidates for the Golden Arm Award must be completing their college eligibility or be a fourth-year junior, on schedule to graduate with his class. Candidates are judged upon character, citizenship, scholastic achievement, leadership qualities, and athletic accomplishments.

The Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award will be presented on Friday, December 9 at the Intercontinental Harbor Court, 550 Light Street in downtown Baltimore. A number of former Baltimore Colts teammates will be there, including Raymond Berry, Jimmy Orr, and Art Donovan. In addition, former Colt Joe Ehrmann, author of the best-selling book *InsideOut Coaching: How Sports Can Transform Lives*, will deliver remarks during the award event.

Since 1987, past winners of the award include Colt McCoy (Texas, 2009), Matt Ryan (Boston College, 2007), Brady Quinn (Notre Dame, 2006), Matt Leinart (USC, 2005), Eli Manning (Ole Miss, 2003), Carson Palmer (USC, 2002), Peyton Manning (Tennessee, 1997). and Rodney Peete (USC, 1988).

Proceeds from the Golden Arm Awards help to support the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Educational Foundation. The Foundation provides financial assistance to underprivileged and deserving young scholar-athletes throughout Maryland and Kentucky.

The namesake of the Golden Arm Award has a storied history. Johnny Unitas was an 18-year veteran of the NFL, who played his collegiate career at the University of Louisville before joining the Baltimore Colts in 1958. His career passing figures include 2,830 pass completions for 40,239 yards, 290 touchdowns and one that may stand forever – throwing a touchdown pass in 47 consecutive games.

Unitas was inducted into Pro Football's Hall of Fame in 1979. Further, the Hall of Fame, in commemorations of the NFL's 25th, 50th, and 75th anniversaries selected Unitas as the top quarterback of all-time. In turn-of-the-century listings, he was named to Sports Illustrated list of top 10 athletes, Time Magazine's list of 10 most influential athletes, and ESPN's series on the 50 greatest athletes of the century.

Additional sponsors for the Golden Arm Award include Athlon Sports, The Babe Ruth and Sports Legends Museum, Baltimore Sun Media Group, Century Engineering, Comcast, Dunbar Armored, GEICO, HMS Insurance Associates, Inc., Intercontinental Harbor Court, R2i.ntegrated, The Scott Garceau Show, Union Memorial Sports Medicine, Wells Fargo, Weiss PR Associates, Inc., Woodberry Kitchen, and Wilson Sporting Goods.

For more information, visit [www.goldenarmfoundation.com](http://www.goldenarmfoundation.com). For additional coverage of the 2011 Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award, visit <http://www.baltimoresun.com/sports/college/golden-arm/>. @Athlon Sports, visit <http://www.athlonsports.com/college-football/golden-arm>.